CLAIMS

1. A method for use with a first network device coupled to a first network, the first network coupled to a second network, the first network device comprising information identifying the first network device on the first network, the method comprising:

receiving an identification message from the first network device, the identification message comprising the identifying information of the first network device;

parsing the identification message to extract the identifying information of the first network device; and

searching a directory table to identify a second network device coupled to the first network, the second network device comprising information identifying the second device on the first network.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises one of a computer, personal digital assistant, pager, cellular telephone, handheld messaging device, facsimile machine, copier, printer, telephone, security camera, household appliance, vending machine, kiosk, or digital camera.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first network device comprises a network connection for coupling to the first network.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a local area network.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a plurality of interconnected networks.

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8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the second network comprises any of a wide area network, global network, public network, or the Internet.

5   9.   The method of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the first network device is located within the firewall.

10.   The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying information of the first network device comprises an address.

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11.   The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying information of the first network device comprises an address of the first network device on the first network.

12.   The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying information of the first
15   network device comprises an address of the first network on the second network.

13.   A method for use with first and second network devices coupled to a first network, the first network coupled to a second network, the first network device comprising information identifying the first network device on the first network, the
20   second network device comprising information identifying the second network device on the first network, the method comprising:
        receiving a first identification message from the first network device, the first identification message comprising the identifying information of the first network device;
25   parsing the first identification message to extract the identifying information of the first network device;
        registering the first network device in a directory table according to the identifying information of the first network device;
        receiving a second identification message from the second network device,
30   the second identification message comprising the identifying information of the second network device;
        parsing the second identification message to extract the identifying information of the second network device; and

searching the directory table to identify the first network device based on the identifying information of the second network device.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second network devices each comprise one of a computer, personal digital assistant, pager, cellular telephone, handheld messaging device, facsimile machine, copier, printer, telephone, security camera, household appliance, vending machine, kiosk, or digital camera.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the first network device comprises a computer and the second network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the first network device comprises a computer and the second network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second network devices each comprise a network connection for coupling to the first network.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the first network comprises a local area network.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein the first network comprises a plurality of interconnected networks.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the second network comprises any of a wide area network, global network, public network, or the Internet.

21. The method of claim 13, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the first and second network devices are located within the firewall.

22. The system of claim 13, wherein the identifying information of the first and second network devices each comprises an address.

23.   The system of claim 13, wherein the identifying information of the first network device comprises an address of the first network device on the first network and the identifying information of the second network device comprises an address of the second network device on the first network.

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24.   The system of claim 13, wherein the identifying information of the first and second network devices each comprises an address of the first network on the second network.